AN APPEAL TO CONGRESS AGAINST BRITAIN AND A WAR OF FACTIONS.

THERE MAY BE TWO PARADES ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY-A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION IN THE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

OVER THE SELECTION OF A GRAND MARSHAL.

There may be two parades on St. Patrick's Day. A week ago, it seemed as if the wh winged dove of peace would hover over all, and that the parade would be "one and inseparable," but two factions of the Ancient Order of Hibernians last Sunday disagreed on the selection of a Grand Marshal.

The convention of Irishmen held at No. 103 est, was a lively one. It continued for ever four hours. James F. Gailagher presided, James O'Donnell acted as secretary. The

following resolutions were unanimously adopted: The Home Secretary of London, after, agea, carefully reviewing the cases of the Irisa-American prisoners now and so long in English jails, brutally and with a action of the English lates to recommend the resur countrymen from the loathsome cells dungeons in which they have been immed maltreated to the extent that the mathem have become raving maniacs; and a four countrymen at home and abroadied themselves to the end that cruel English loosen the gailing chains that are slowsurely twisting their hellish links into the twisting their hellish links into the sof our brothers, whose only crime was loved Ireland and hated her oppressors. That the Irish Convention, in meeting at No. 108 Canton-st., condemn the Britist for their unjustifiable and inhuman of the Irish-American citizens, whom delight in persecuting with greater in is practised in the most uncivilized world.

world.
That the convention of Irish societies tition, and in due time forward the same s while in session, requesting that our estimature interest itself in an effort to a strong released from have Irish-American citizens released from prizons; and be it further

cleast have Irish-American citizens released from relish prizons; and be if further liesolved. That we call upon all Irishmen to site, and by an invincible movement place our-elves in a position to demand freedom for the atriotic Irishmen who are being treated so bararously by English assassins. Resolved, That we demand amnesty for those syal, patriotic men, else Irishmen should have an ye for an eve and a tooth for a tooth, and let the carery be "Revenge! Revenge! Cruel England, all off your dogs before some of your imbecile, old-hearted tyrants may be made to bite the bust!"

M. J. Murphy formed a committee to forward resolutions to Congress, with the request that Congress recommend them to the attention of the Secretary of State. Then a recess was taken, while a conference committee went out to confer with a similar committee of the rival While the ambassadors were absent, Mr. Downes rose and said that there was room in Kings County for only one organization of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and remarked in effect: "Let us have peace."

Subsequently, the committee of conference returned, and, through Secretary O'Donnell, reported that neither side desired to concede any particular honor or privilege to the other, and at there was a difference of opinion as to which faction should have the right to appoint the Grand Marshal. It seems that a vote had been taken which resulted in a deadlock. Mr. O'Donnell said that his side had conceded to the other side the right to appoint a marshal two years ago, and the committee had suggested that there should be a reciprocation. The opposing faction had asserted, however, that Mr. O'Donnell's friends had forfeited a right to the marshalship by not turning out

tast year. There was further discussion, and at last Mr. Gallagher said: "I have just been informed that our committee offered to give the grand marshalship to the St. Patrick's Alliance, and the other side refused to accept. I think our committee did well in the matter, and I say let us have nothing to do with the other side. Let them do as they please, and we will do the same."

Somebody introduced a motion to discharge the onference committee, but James Dee objected. He said that the committee had not performed its duty. The motion to discharge the committee, however, was carried by a vote of 31 to 9. Mr. Dee rose and moved that a new committee be appointed, and the motion was carried. Then Mr Dee suggested that the other organization be notified of that fact and requested to appoint a new committee also. Then there was a little exchange of personal remarks between Mr. Dee and Mr. McGuire. Mr. McGuire left his seat and walked toward Dee, looking decidedly angry. McGuire shook his fist under Dee's nose. The chairman pounded with his gavel and yelled for "order," after which a new conference com-mittee was annointed.

chairman poor.

"order," after which a new contect

mittee was appointed.

When a delegate arose and moved that the
new committee be empowered to let the other
side appoint the grand marshal, there were loud
and indignant protests from all parts of the room.

The convention adjourned to meet again next

The convention adjourned to meet again next Sunday.

Members of the Irish Federation held an enthusiastic meeting at Washington Hall, at Myrtle-ave, and Navy-st. There were some excited debates, all about money due the Federation since the last picnic. Michael Harty rose to remark that he wanted to know what the Federation proposed to do about the Amnesty Organization of New-York City. Mr. Downes said that at the last meeting a few of the members seemed to criticise the movement, and the speaker kimself criticised men who dared to throw cold water on a movement which had for its object the alleviation of suffering inflicted upon Irishmen by cruel English tyrants. James G. Fitzgerald, who is a Nationalist, eaid that "there is no man worthy the name of an Irishman" who will put an obstacle in the way of incentrying to gain freedom for Irishmen languishing in British Jaits. Mr. Downes said it was unfertunate that two Irish conventions were being held within a stone's throw of each other. He wanted to know how long this demonstration of scandal was to last. The Irish Federation, he said, had taken no part in the deliberation of these conventions, but the party responsible for the clash must be held up before the community as unfit to represent the Irish people of Brooklyn.

SANDS-ST. M. E. CHURCH TO CELEBRATE. The Sands Street Methodist Episcopal Church will on Sunday, March 1, celebrated the payment of its \$12,000 debt on church and parsonage. At 10:30 a. m. Bishop E. G. Andrews will preach a sermon, be held, led by J. J. Barnier. D. D. Whitney will give a financial statement. The Rev. Dr. C. S. Wing will preside at a meeting to be held at 6:45 p. m., at which former pastors and pastors of helghboring churches will make speeches. Other addresses will be made by the presiding elder, the Rev. Dr. C. Cuthbert Hall, and the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott. and at 2:45 p. m. a laymen's platform meeting will

Rome correspondence of The Pail Mail Gazette.

The most obstinate and terrible enemy of Italy and the Italians is not Menelek, nor Ras Makmanach, but the beautiful Taliu, wife of the Negus. It is she who passes from tent to tent in the Shoan camp, exciting them to struggle, to fight and to exterminate. The real name of this enemy of Italy is Taliu-Zehetiopia Berehan, which hears "sunlight of Ethiopia," and she comes from a noble and ancient Semien family. Under the reign of Theodore (the Emperor who committed suic.de at Magdala, after having been defeated by Lord Napier in 1967) Taliu was exilted from Shoa, which treatment all members of royal families had to undergo, and went to the Court of Gondar, where she met the young Menelek, with whom she fell desperately in love, and who afterward became her third husband, while she is his second wife. As an African, this "Light of Ethiopia" is beautiful. She has regular features, except for a small defect in her upper lip, which she disguises well when speaking. She is of a clear brown color and of melium height, with large, expressive black eyes, which, according to good or evil circumstances, have a benevolent or sareastic and even at times malevolent expression. She is a woman to have for a friend, but her enemics must beware; even Menelek himself cannot protect them from her vengeance. KING MENELEK'S FASCINATING WIFE.

Menelek himself cannot protect them from her vengeance.

She insists on commanding all and eveything, and must be obeyed on the moment, although sile has an air of being weak and indifferent. There is not an affair of State which does not pass under her eyes. She wishes to know all that the Emperor does, says or writes, giving advice and dictating important letters. Taitu reads easily, and has now begun to learn to write, which is extraordinary for a woman of Ethiopia. Her pride and efforts to be all in all have made her many enemies. If the King should die, she would be destroyed at once, and this she understands, as she has deposited all her riches out of Shoa in Goggiam. The dark Empress loves her husband, whom she rules with an iron hand; if he does as she wishes she exaits and praises him, if not, she insults and abuses him. Menelek has been credited, in weak moments, with a wish to be free, but recognizing her superior force of character, he has always returned to his allegiance. Taitu, with all her masculine attributes, is still a woman. She is exceedingly fond of dress and oroaments, which she selects with great taste.

to wear silk stockings and European slippers, and squeezes her hands into tight gloves. Her ornaments are usually gold filteree, which she wears about her neck, arms and ankles. She drinks champagne with pleasure, but it must be French and dry. She carries her dislike of the Italians even to their drinks

NOT TOO MUCH TROLLEY.

SELECTIONS FROM THE MAIL,

SENATOR LEXOW'S WEAK REPORT.

HE FAILS TO ANSWER OBJECTIONS RAISED TO

DANGER AT THE GRAVES.

CLERGYMEN ASK TO BE EXCUSED FROM SERVICES AT THE CEMETERY.

THE LONG RIDE AND THE EXPOSURE TO ALL SORTS OF WEATHER TOO SEVERE A PHYSI-CAL TAX. THEY SAY-BESIDES THIS.

> SPENT TAKES THEM AWAY FROM THEIR OTHER

The clergymen of the Eastern District, at a recent meeting, adopted a resolution appealing to the members of their respective congregations to relieve them from attendance at cometeries after performing a funeral service, main taining that they were subjected to exposure and liable to pneumonia. The appeal is as fol-

service upon the body and upon the sympathies, so severely as to make any serious work for the rest of the day out of the question. Thus from two-thirds of a day to its entire time are given up to each funeral when these several services are required, and when funerals come, as they do to many edergymen, three and four times in a week, it is easy to see how severe a drain they cause to strength and time. When it is remembered how many other tasks await the minister's time during the services of Sunartion for public meetings and the services of Sunartion for the calls upon the siek, the supervision of parish affairs, it will not be wondered at that the ministers feel that the current customs exact too much of them, and more than is just to the rest of their work.

We might question the whole matter of intermen

whe do not ask to a receive and a service to those who are in sorrow, nor to secure our own ease at any cost to the feelings of our charges. We recognize the consolations we are called to administer as the most sacred part of our Christian office. But we submit that the requirement of these distinct services and the long journey to the distant cemeteries is more than in fairness ought to be expected.

The clergymen who were present at the meet ing were the Revs. Hugo W. Hoffman, James H. Darlington, John Erskine Adams, Rivington D. Lord, John Brittan Clark, J. D. Kennedy, Joseph T. Duryea, John Coleman Adams, J. Wesley Johnson, J. L. Ray, Newell Woolsey Wells, John D. Wells, Charles W. Ivie, G. L. Weiskotten.

DYE WORKS THREATENED BY FIRE. FOUR ALARMS SENT IN FOR A BLAZE IN

GREENPOINT LAST NIGHT. A fire which threatened to destroy the works of the New-York Dye-Wood Extract and Chemical Company, which cover an entire block, bounded by Freeman, Greene, Franklin and West sts., Greenpoint, broke out at ? o'clock last evening in a shed

adjoining the immense building. The fames spread rapidly, and when the firemen arrived four alarms were at once sent in.

The shed in which the fire started contained about \$20,000 worth of new timber, which had only a few days ago been brought from South America and the West Indies. The firemen confined the flames to the shed, and the entire loss is estimated at \$50,000. Superintendent McBride, of the commany, last night

### HE WANTED MORE ADVICE.

From The Detroit Free Press. "I'd like to speak to you a minute," he said as he met a patrolman at the corner of Michiganave, and Waynest, the other evening, "All right, What is it?"

"About six months ago I met you down by the City Hail one afternoon."

"Well?"

"I was after a market of the said as minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute, and a minute of the said as the said as a few and a minute of the said as a few and a minute of the said as a few and a minute of the said as a few and a minute of the said as a few and a minute of the said as a few and a minute of the said as a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute," he said as he was a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute," he said as he was a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute," he said as he was a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute," he said as he was a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a minute, "he said as he was a few and a few

"I was after a marriage license and asked

"Yes."
"When you found I was going to be married you laid your hand on my shoulder in a fatherly way and said: "Young man, pause and reflect." Do you remarked?"

remember?"
"Yes, I think I do."
"Well, your words struck home. I paused and reflected. I did not get a license." reflected. I did not set married."
"No!"
"And I didn't get married."
"You didn't, eh! Well, I am giad if advice of mine prevented you from taking a step which you might ever thereafter regret. Do you want any

more advice?" The girl sued me for breach of promise and got a verilict of \$2,000 and cleaned me out of my last cent and all I can earn for the next five years to come. Meine you want to lay your fatherly hand on my shoulder and give me some

more wisdom."
"Young man," said the officer, as he slid his
fingers along up his coat sleeve until they rested
on his collar, "you move on."

SUPERINTENDENT MARTIN HAS NO APPREHEN-SION THAT THE STRUCTURE MAY BE WEAK-

> -ALL WIRES ARE COMPLETELY INSULATED - DAILY INSPEC-

> > AGAINST DANGER.

Superintendent Martin, of the New-York and

Brooklyn Bridge, said yesterday afternoon to a reporter, in discussing whether or no ing of cars at either terminus, or for the propul-Bridge because of any deterioration of the cables or the structure of the Bridge itself; "There is trolysis on the steel used in the construction the Bridge. The fact is that the wires supplying the current for the propulsion of these cars are completely insulated, and the current returns through the rails, which are also thoroughly in-sulated. There is no reason whatever to fear any damage to the Bridge structure through electrolysis; the Bridge cables themselves are large enough to carry all the electric currents that may be generated in this city or New-York. All we would have to do would be to ground any such current, and that would be a very easy

could lay a return wire rt very little cost. At present the current for the trolley car is carried through an overhead wire, and the return cur-rent is carried through the rails, which are also rent is carried through the rais, which are completely insulated. If necessary, we would lay a return whre to carry the current back to the motor-house, but this I do not believe will be necessary. The truth is that all this talk of any damage to the superstructure of the Bridge because of electrolysis is wholly erroneous. No

# FOR SWEEPING THE STREETS

BIDS INVITED FROM THOSE WHO WANT TO CLEAN 19,000 MILES OF STREETS.

SEVERAL NEW FEATURES IN THE SPECIFICA TIONS, SUCH AS REMOVING ASH RECEPTA-RETURNING THEM-WOMEN HAVE

years' contract for cleaning the streets of Brook lyn and for removing the ashes. Several new features are included in the specifications prepared by the Commissioner.

According to the specifications, receptacles for ashes must be taken from inside of courtyards and area lines, and after being emptied must be restored to such places. This must be done once a week. Low lots, within the city limits, may be used as dumping grounds for ashes wholly free from garbage.

In such streets as the Commissioner may design nate the cleaning shall take place between 19 increasing or reducing the number of mines, in case the contractor does not perform the work in accordance with the contract, the Commissioner may have it done at his expense. Asphalt streets are to be cleaned with brooms and scrapers three times weekly. A number of the granite-paved streets are to be cleaned by hand brooms three times weekly. Macadamized streets are to be cleaned by hand when the Commissioner so orders.

rders.

The specifications require the contractor to urnish an undertaking in penalty of \$100,000, with two sureties for the satisfactory performance of the work.

The Commissioner has received a communica-

ion from Mrs. Ellen Scrimgeour, the presiden of the Women's Health Protective League, ask of the women's freath Projective Leader, Sairing for a hearing by a committee in reference to suggestions for specifications. The Commissioner has set 4 o'clock to-day for the hearing, which will take place at his office. He says that if any good suggestions be made they will be added to the specifications.

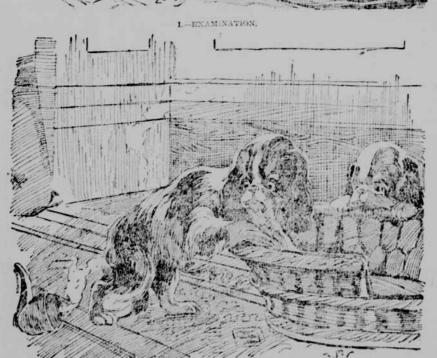
### WILLIAM H. CLINCH DEAD.

William H. Clinch, a veteran newsdealer, died Roosevelt-st, ferry. In 1870 be chan ed his stand to Smith-st, near Roosevelt-st, where he did bus ness up to the time of his death. Mr. Clinch was a vet-eran fireman, serving with Engine Company No. 13.

## RECEPTION FOR MME. BERNHARDT.

The reception given yesterday afternoon by Mrs Flamen B. Candler, of No. II Monroe Place, to dme. Sarah Bernhardt was attended by about sev enty-five of Brooklyn's best known women. reception was an informal affair, and the guest were introduced to Mme. Bernhardt by Mrs. Can dier, who has been acquainted with her for a num ther, who has been acquainted with her for a num set of years. The reception was held from 4 to





IL-REALIZATION "A STARTLING EXPERIMENT."

CONSOLIDATION AT THE HEARING. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I examined Lexow's report on consolidation with interest, to see what he would say about the objections, urged before the sub-committee at the hearing in Brooklyn, that the proposed bill would destroy the limit to the debt-contracting power which the Constitution imposes upon cities and coun ties, and that the establishment of the proposed city would, according to the Constitution, require the enstituting of Boards of Supervisors in New-York and Kings countles, with the dangers of expense and

As to the debt-contracting power, I find that Sen-ator Lexow disposes of the objection in these words only: "It seems to us that this can constitute no valid objection. If, for the sake of argument, we assume that the proposition is true, there is adequate power in the Legislature by proper limitation to fore-stall any such predicted abuse." Senator Lexow did not attempt to show that his

proposed bill would not destroy the limitation on the debt-contracting power of the two cities, which the Constitution has established. He saw that he could not do that. He has sought to avoid the objection by saying that some Legislature may set up a statutor; parrier in place of the constitutional barrier which he proposes to have this Legislature throw down. This mode of avoiding the objection suggests the famous lines of Bramston:

I hear a lion in the lobby roar. Sav. Mr. Speaker, shall we shut the door, And keep him there, or shall we let him in,

To try if we can turn him out again? Because the animal in question in this case is a tiger instead of a lion, the lines are no less applicable Senator Lexow urges the Legislature to open the door and let the creature in because, possibly, some Legislature may turn him out again.

this doubling of the debt-contracting power "can constitute no valid objection?" Doubtless there are those to whom the fact that the bill would break down debt in these cities would be not only no objection to it, but really an argument in its favor, because th contracting of a debt amounting to 20 per cent of the value of the real estate of the two cities would possibly furnish, to those who were friends of the partie in power, double the amount of jobs which they citizens who have to pay the debts by taxallon, such an extension of the limit is certainly objectionable, because it is to them a great danger. And the very reason why the limitation was put in the Constitution was this, that people knew that the Legislature could not be relied on to guard against the suggested above of the behavior.

could not be relied on to guard against the suggested abuse of the debt-contracting power.

As to the Supervisor question, Senator Lexow adroitly fails to answer the objection at all. The objection is, "If you pass the bill there must be Boards of Supervisors, which are a useress expense and a menace to economical administration." Senator Lexow does not deny either statement. He writes as if the objection made to the bill was that it did not provide for Boards of Supervisors, instead of that it made it necessary to provide for them. He says, first, that there is time to provide for Boards of Supervisors prior to 1898. Of course there is, but that has nothing to do with the co-

n he says that if the Legislature does not perdoes not. Legislature, if it passes this bill, must le its constitutional duty or must set up Supervisors in New-York and Kings

nties, the objection, therefore, that the bill will throw in the citizens of New-York and Kings counties itseless expense of Boards of Supervisors, with the complications, confusion and menace to nomy and good government which has essuited in their existence in those counties in times past, off entirely unanawered by Senator Lexow's rett.

alections to the tons argued on these grounds.

ROBERT D. BENEDICT.

New-York, Feb. 24, 1896.

### REPUBLICANS WITHOUT COLLARS.

e, beyond a shadow of doubt, that there are good Republicans without collars than with.

impossible that in a civilized community such a heart-rending scene could be possible. You have given the unvarnished facts of the case, so no ungiven the unvarnished facts of the case, so no unprejudiced person can call in question the veracity
of the statement. The Rushites deserve the severest
condemnation for their cruel treatment of these
poor women. It is not simply neglect, but a crime,
and deserves the most coordign punishment, Such
an incident would not have occurred among the
Bushmen of Africa. And yet, in a civilized community that is prosperous, it seems that none possessed a particle of sympathy for these foor sufferers, but allowed them to die from account starvation.

New York, Ech. 22, 1896.

New-York, Feb. 22, 1896. WASHINGTON AND MR. DUCHE.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The recurrence of the birthday of Washington has brought to light some incidents not hitherto generally known. There is one to which I have

our history.

At the opening of the first Congress, Samuel At the opening of the first Congress, Samuel Adams proposed as eminently appropriate that the session be opened with prayer and moved that the service, who thus rapidly have attained the rank of however, must be told, no matter whose idol falls from its pedestal especially when it flashes another ray on the radiant figure of Washington. The fact is that soon after this honor was canferred on Mr. Duché he turned traitor to the patriot cause, went within the British lines in New-York, and wrote a letter to Washington, by hand of a Mrs. Ferguson, the wife of a wealthy Tory merchant, evicining him to abandon the American cause and the struggle for independence, and to resign the command of the army: to force Congress immediately to desist from hostilities, and to reseind the Decaration of Independence. 'If that is not done,' he says, 'you have an intallible resource left. Negotiate for America at the head of the army.'

He then proceeds to abuse and vilify the Congress. This was Washington's reply: 'To Mr. Duché's ridiculous and illibera, performance I made a short reply by desiring the bearer, Mrs. Ferguson, if by any accident she should meet with Mr. Duché, to tel. him I would have returned his letter unopened if I had had any idea of its contents.'

New-York, Feb. 22, 1895.

persons can now hire cabs without any discussions or disputes. All that is necessary is for them to see that the cabs have a card with the rates of fare, and then to pay them such fares. In consequence of the improved service many persons, and especially ladies, now use the cabs who did not do so formerly. A help to the greater use of cabs would be if it were generally known that persons could have cabs drive up to their doors in the vicinity of Fifth and Madison aves. where there are many prowling about, in response to a whistle, as is done in London. New-York, Feb. 24, 1896.

OBSERVER.

MORE NAVAL ENGINEERS NEEDED. A VAST INCREASE OF MACHINERY AND A DE-CREASE OF OFFICERS TO RUN IT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Senate bill 735 (House bill 3,618), introduced by Senator Squire and Representative Wilson, respectively, contains several features relative to the reorgan zation of the engineer corps of the Navy. While not attempting here any general presentation of points relating to the bill as a whole, I wish to call the attention of your readers briefly to some reasons why the Navy needs more engineers.

In 1882, when a start was made in the rehabilitation of the Navy, there were in commission about thirtyfive vessels aggregating about twenty-five thousand indicated horse-power. Broad plans were under con-sideration for an increase in the number and power of the ships of the Navy. At this time the growing importance of machinery versus sails was clearly seen, but in spite of the necessarily growing importance of the engineer and his duties, the number of officers in the engineers corps was very largely reduced. This was a piece of legislation which has never been and never can be justified. Its consequences have been not only seriously detrimental to the best good of the service at large, but have

to the best good of the service at large, but have also reacted with crushing severity on individuals, leading in several cases to overwork, nervous and physical exhaustion and breakdown.

The number of ships now in commission is about thirty, aggregating about two hundred thousand indicated horse power, or about eight times as much as in 182; and yet, under existing law, it is proposed to care efficiently for this enormously increased and increasing amount of power by a corps of engineers depicted by the law above referred to and by casualty to about one hundred and seventy-three, or about one hundred less than the number allowed in 1889.

The condition is, therefore, briefly as follows: The machinery of a warship is vitally necessary to

allowed in 1889.

The condition is, therefore, briefly as follows: The machinery of a warship is vitally necessary to its efficiency and fighting capacity. The officers who design, care for and superintend the operation of this machinery should be ample in numbers for the duties required of them.

The physical history of the engineer corps of the Navy for the last few years shows conclusively that this is not the case. Most of those on whom the burden has fallen most heavily are men who served faithfully in the Civil War, and whose reward thirty years later as been an overloading of work under which several have broken down at an age when they should be in the prime of their maturity. This has made the duty still more severe for those remaining, and thus the natural tendency is worse rather than better. An examination of these points will show conclusively that the present and prespective numbers in the corps, especially in view of the new stips nearing completion, are entirely inadequate to do the dutles imposed on them, and that the condition has reached a point where some measure of relief is imperatively demanded.

The United States has over £0,00,000 invested in warships, and nothing can excuse a policy which denies to the emineer corps a sufficient number of

The United States has over \$10,000,000 invested in warships, and nothing can excuse a policy which denies to the enrineer corps a sufficient number of officers properly to care for the machinery of these hips and maintain it in a state of efficiency. The high aduly of Congress is therefore to provide the corps with a sufficient personnel, and no true friend of the Navy will be satisfied with anything less than the modest increase called for in this bill which fixes the numbers in all grades at 23, or only 32 more than the number allowed in 1889, when the involunt of steam power to be cared for was only about one-eighth the amount we now have. The necessity is pidan and urgent, the remedy proposed at the only one adequate, and Congress cannot afford to allow the present session to clause without favorable action on this measure. W. F. DURAND, Professor of Marine Engineering, Cornell Uni-

versity. Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 20, 1896.

FAULT FOUND WITH THE LAMONT BILL. DISADVANTAGES TO STAFF OFFICERS-THE

LENGTH-OF-SERVICE RULE-"PRO-MOTION" TO VACANCIES.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Register," regarding Army legislation and Army if the so-style! Lamont bill in no other newspapers. Reading this letter

the light of this, the contention as to what constihas grown up because this article of war limits We are for McKiney first, Reed second, Altison third and Mr. Morton last for the high bonor. A little stir along the line and things might not be quite so easy for the crew, and a word would first the populace for representation at St. Louis. Peoplical, and are watching Ansany closely this winterpart the never was a crowd that necled it more. Rochester, Feb. 15, 1856. WATCHER. SEVEREST CONDEMNATION DESERVED.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir. I have read your article, "A Rural Incident," and you deserve the thanks of the community for making the deserved exposure. It seems almost impossible that in a civilized community such a standard of the community is and the deserved exposure. It seems almost impossible that in a civilized community such a standard of the community is important matter? It certainly is important matter? It certainly is important matter? It certainly is important matter? pie alone deem it an attempt at unwise legislation.

pie nione deem it an attempt at unwise legislation.
Hanest men may differ about it, at least.
It is noticed in the proposed bill that regimental adjutants and quartermasters are only to be first lieutenants. In Secretary Lamont's bill, submitted hast year, he wanted them to be captains. It would be interesting to know what has operated to change his mind. These staff officers should be captains, as Senator Fiking provides in his Infantry bill. There are good reasons for this. From a military point of view the position of regimental adjutant or quarter master properly demands the rank of captain. It is in keeping with the dignity and responsibility of the position. These staff officers now draw the pay of dismounted captains and the forage of mounted captains. The provision to make them captains would add but \$5,600 to the military budget. For this amount eighty-four new captains would be pro-vided. Nor is this a matter of such importance. seen no aliusion. It is an important one, illustrating the spirit of Washington and correcting an legislation giving doctors rank of captain after five erroneous impressien concerning one who has been regarded as a patriot, and is prominently cited in teen years' service; regular quartermasters and commissaries, storckeepers and chaplains the rank of

Rev. Mr. Duché be requested to invoke the Divine captain, are in some instances authorized to turn out favor and blessing. He was a rector of the Episcopal of their quarters old artillery lieutenants, who were Church, or Church of England, whese adherents in the Civil War before these same doctors were with few exceptions were Tories. For this act Mr. born. This inequality in rank, under the regula-Duché has been made conspicuous among the operation of law, is notorious, and it is likewise actors in our Revolutionary history. He has been odious in the eyes of fair-minded men. If, however, ranged with those noble exceptions. The truth, however, must be told, no matter whose idol falls from its pedexial especially when it finshes another the factor of the fa of these older licutenants would be armed, so to say, against this acknowledged injustice.

In section 6 of the Lamont bill it is stated that vacancles caused by or resulting therefrom shall be filled by promotion. This is not correctly using technical language. The vacancies caused by the army to force Congress immediately to desist from hostilities, and to rescind the Decaration of Independence. "If that is not done," he says, "you have an itrailible resource left. Noglotate for America at the head of the army. He then proceeds to abuse and vility the Congress. This was Washington's reply: "To Mr. gress. This was Washington's reply: "To Mr. gress. This was Washington's reply: "To Mr. Buché. It is reply by desiring the bearer, Mrs. Mr. Duché. Si ridiculous and illibera, the bearer, Mrs. Mr. Duché. To tel. him I would have entered in the second tents."

TIME TO CALL A HALT.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: If Governor Morton is going to be boomed to the Presidential nomination by the songs and dances of Messra. Platt and Lauterbach, the Republican party had better call a half.

TO BETTER THE CAB SERVICE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A few years ago it was impossible to hire a cab in this city at the stands without having a discussion about the fare, and but few persons used them at that time. The City Improvement Society undertook the task of requiring the drivers of these vehicles to abide by the regular fares, and with the aid of the authorities it has secured such an improvement in the public cab service of this city that technical language. The vacancies caused by the bill will be what are known as original vacancies.

len-th-of-service rule saves these old soldiers from such predicament.

It cannot truthfully be alieged that the length-of-service rule will promote officers over their seniors. The term seniority does not apply to the case. One can as truthfully aliege that appointing civilians to these original vacancies would be to promote them over their seniors, aiready lieutenants. An absurd statement; but not more than the other, though at first blush it might appear so. And here the viciousness of using the term "promotion," as in s-ction 6, again appears.

The lineal list can be said to establish seniority in a proper sense among the fleutenants of an officer's own regiment, and nowhere else. In the artilery, the fifth leutenant on that list will, under present auspices, be the next captain; the sixth on the list, similarly, has the prospect for seventeenth captain. Plainly, therefore, there is nothing in the claim that the lineal list gives right to appointment to original vacancies by virtue of any seniority it establishes. The more this claim is probed, the less substantial it will appear.

There is a curious provision in this section 5 of the propoced bill that deserves particular notice. It provides that all vacancies occurring after July 1, 1500 shall be filled only after the examinations pro-

There is a curious provision in this section 6 of the proposed bill that deserves particular notice. It provides that all varancies occurring after July 1, 1808, shall be filled only after the examinations provided for by existing law. The term "all" vacancies, of course, covers all that may arise. Whether so intended or not, it is broad enough to apply to field officers, who, if this bill becomes law, may find themselves subject to examinations before they can go up a grade. This is advocated in Secretary Lamont's last annual report, and may be a proper thing in itself; the wonder is that it should thus be provided for in this doubtful manner. Why not, if that be intended, come out and plainly say that field officers must pass examinations before promotion?

It is an error, and a grievous one, to attribute all opposition to this measure to the unworthy motive of selfishness. Men differ in their views of public policy. Let us therefore, be charitable, not intolerant. If selfishness were legitimate criticism, what might not be said of the efforts making to re-establish the lieutenant-general, if one were disposed to take a rarrow view of the matter. Fortunately, no such view is likely to be taken. General Miles deserves, should, and it is believed will, receive that advancement. The Army is proud of him, and stands by him to a man, whether in peace or in war. But can any one give a good reason why, while he is deservedly elevated, his companions in arms on the battle-fields of the great war wherein he won renown should permanently and without necessity be relegated to oositions in the Army below men who were mere boys at school when these veterans were helping General Miles nall the flag of victory to the Union standard? We hope this will not be done. Let the war veteran, subordinate equally with the commander, have justice mered out to him.

New-York, Feb. 15, 1896. ion?
It is an error, and a grievous one, to attribute all phosition to this measure to the unworthy motive

New-York, Feb. 15, 1896.

OLD DUTCH COINS AND MEASURES. FIGURES FROM THE VAN RENSSELAER MANU-SCRIPTS THAT SHOW THEIR VALUE IN

NEW-YORK.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The writer of the chapter on "Coins and Cure ney of New-York," in Vol. IV. of Wilson's "Memorial History of the City of New-York," asks The Cribune to make the following additions:

In arranging the manuscripts of the Van Rensse her family, account books of the times of Jeremins Van Rensselaer, the ancestor of the family in America, and his son Killan were examined, which gave these values, as entering into the calculations of merchants of their time.

A Holland ducat was equal to 4 florins 15 stivers (\$1.90), a French gold crown 14 cents less; a Henrick roble is quoted at 9 florins 10 stivers (\$2.50); a rose noble, at 10 florins 10 stivers (\$4.20), and a Flemish noble at 6 florins 16 stivers, while somewhat earlier the rose noble had a value of only 8 florins 10 stivers (\$3 40), and the ducat was equal to 7 florins 2 stivers (†2 84). Italian pistolettes are quoted at 3 florins 5 stivers, golden lions at 4 florins 5 stivers, milaneses (?) at 7 florins 2 stivers and double pistolettes at 13 florins. The numismatist may know what is meant by an "English Sytten" at 5 floring 8 stivers (\$1 16). The Holland coins seem generally to have gained in value after the Ensiteh occupation. In 1862 the ryksdaler (imperial dollar) is quoted at 46 stivers (32 cents), while at the end of the seventeenth century, before English values had driven out Dutch coins, it is given as equal to 50 stivers or \$1.

In the above-named chapter mention is made of wampum, beaver skins and wheat as currency. The Van Rensselaer MSS, give us some idea how these circulating media were used in trade, notwithstanding all governmental edicts. Twenty-five florins in wampum were, between 1661 and 1677, considered equal to one beaver, which had a coin value of a florins (\$3.20), while five schepels of wheat were also equal to one beaver and one beaver sold for six Carolus florins.

equal to Congress, through the publisher of "The Register," one is reminded of an article in The Tribune of about January 3 or 4 last, regarding the recent Army regulation inhibiting officers from seking through other than the War Department remanded to industrie the War Department want of barmony in the Army as to proposed legislation is confesselly true. But this is not surprising. Secretary Lamont's bill defines the line of the Army as being composed of cavairy, artificity and infantry. This is of great importance, in view of the provisions of the 122d Article of War. In view of the provisions of the 122d Article of War. In the light of this, the contention as to what constitutions are to the contention as to what constitutions are contentions. Another source, the Albany Country Records, gives the following information concerning New-York that following information concerning New-York the following information concerning New-York that following information concerning N

MR. PLATT AND CONSOLIDATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: For several days, or months rather, your valued paper has been fretting me by your opposition to the consolidation project, which has been the pet scheme of my life, and seems now near realization. These vast communities comprising what we call New-York, Brooklyn, Jersey City and Staten Island are, in fact, but one municipality. Their interests and dependencies are identical, and heir interests and dependencies are inclined, and no but the politicians and local newspapers seek prevent this most natural and desirable union, to are all New-Yorkers practically. We read New-York papers, stay at New-York hotels, attend to us ness at New-York Exchanges, and, I think, me of my Brooklyn friends call themselves New-kiers when abroad. Your reasons for opposition not sound. No fear of Platt; the people, not he, the rulers. Brooklyn, Feb. 18, 1826.

A GOOD REASON FOR CONFIDENCE.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: What can explain the eagerness of capitalists to subscribe for the different issues of United States bonds, effering five or six times the amount called for and paying a handsome premium for the same, unless it be the firm belief and expectation that the present Democratic policy of meeting the necessary expenses of government by these same bond issues will be entirely changed by the election next fall of a Republican President and Congress, and, of course, the beginning of a different method of raising necessary revenues by a return to a system of customs duties which will also include adequate protection to our home industries? If the Cleveland policy of borrowing money by the Issue of bonds from time to time, as the necessity may arise, should be continued, how in the name of common sense be continued, now in the name of continued states and the bends ever be paid? How? Why, by issuing more bonds, I suppose. The fact that the call for gold was so promptly met by offers from all over the country, by capitalists big and little, shows that they expect a change, and that they look to the dispublicans in Congress to straighten out our financial difficulties. al difficulties. Short Hills, N. J., Feb. 21, 1896.

CLOSING PRICES SAN FRANCISCO STOCKS.

	San	Francisco,	February	24,	1896
Alta	1	4 Mexicar	Ciablo	• • • • •	***
Dont & Delcher		Si Ophtr -		<b>MAKA</b>	22.00
Hodie Consolidated	T. 15	1 Savaga			
Chollar Crown Point					
Crown Point		o titale			
Hale & Norcross	. 1.2	Yellow	Jacket	in the	
		C2 9 June 1		200	

EUROPEAN PRODUCE MARKETS.

EUROPEAN PRODUCE MARKETS.

Liverpool, Feb. 24, 3:45 p. m.—Beef—Extra India; dull at 51s 3d; prime incess dull at 56s 3d. Fork—Femess Western fine, dull at 51s 2d; do medium du 46s 3d. Hams—Short cut, about 14 to 16 lb, stead 28s 6d. Bacom—Cumberland cut, about 28 to 30 lb, at 28s 6d; short rib, about 25 lb, firm at 27s 6d; clear middles, about 45 lb, firm at 27s 6d; long and clear middles, about 45 lb, firm at 27s 6d; long and clear middles, about 35 lb, steady at 26s. Should About 12 to 18 lb, dull at 28s. Lard—Prime Western, dull at 27s 6d. Cheese—American finest white du 45s; do colored dull at 45s. Tallow—Prime city stead 27s 9d. Cottonseed oil—Liverpool refined, steady at Spirits of turpentine steady at 21s. Resin—Common sta 4s 7kd. Wheat—No 2 red winter firm at 5s 7d; Northern spring firm at 5s 6xd. Flour—St Louis fwinter dull at 7s ld. Corn—Mixed Western, spot, at 3s 4d; February jem at 3s 4d. March firm at 3s April firm at 3s 4d. Hops at London—Pactific coast si at 30@50s. Receipts of wheat for the last west for at 30@50s. Receipts of American corn for the last value for

SOUTHERN COTTON MARKETS.

Galveston, Feb. 24.—Cotton steady: middling, 7 11-162; low middling, 7 5-16c; good ordinary, 6 15-16c; net and gross receipts, 6,575 bales; exports to the Continent, 6,800 bales; sales, 72 bales, all spinners; stock, 84,804 bales, Norfolk, Feb. 24.—Cotton firm; middling, 7 11-16c; low middling, 7 5-16c; good ordinary, 6%c; net and gross receipts, 1,825 bales; exports to Great Britain, 701 bales; constitute, 1,310 bales; capacities, 1,325 bales; beles; sales, 72 bales, all spinners; alock, os, at takes, Norfolk, Pab. 24.—Cotton firm; middling, 711-18c; low middling, 75-16c; good ordinary, 6%c; net and gross receipts, 1.828 bales; exports to Great Britain, 701 bales; coastwise, 1.310 bales; sales, 213 bales; stock, 35,845 bales, New-Orleans Feb. 24.—Cotton steady; good middling, 713-16c; middling, 75-6c; low middling, 77-16c; good ordinary, 75-6c; net receipts, 5,900 bales; gross, 6,011 bales; exports to Great Britain, 8,910 bales; sales, 5,450 bales; stock, 311.866 bales.
Savannah, Feb. 24.—Cotton quiet and firm; middling, 79-16c; low middling, 75-16c; net and gross receipts, 1,475 bales; exports coastwise, 2,617 bales; sales, 396 bales; stock, 69,531 bales